

to realize what they mean to us. In India it is not very long since a pedlar could attract a crowd around him by striking a match.

The domestication of animals was another long step in material progress. We may believe that this was a development from the keeping of pets to which man is naturally inclined by his instinct of kindness. Some species of birds and quadrupeds are curiously distinguished by the readiness with which they become tame owing to some weakness of directive instinct they can contract artificial habits more easily than other species to which they may be closely related. The intelligent, playful docility of the sea-lion is an extraordinary sport "—a gem which lies hidden in the ocean. A little bird of Ecuador—the *chiroka* (*Icterus gramineus*)—in a few weeks will become quite habituated to man's society and will be frightened by no noise or sight that it has once harmlessly experienced. The American grey squirrel fearlessly accosts passers-by in the parks, and there is a large Indian squirrel which will in a few days become astonishingly intimate with its captor. The tameness of the Indian mongoose is well known. But the docility of these animals is exceptional. Most birds, even although born in captivity, never lose their instinctive timidity, and such near relatives of the dog as the wolf and the jungle dog of India are quite untameable. We

may suppose that the animals that have been domesticated by man were distinguished. as pets. by the facility with which they could acquire new habits; this peculiarity of disposition inured them to slavery. when it was perceived that they could serve man as well as amuse him. In the tropical regions that were man's first habitat. his first essays in domestication would be with the